

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03605 142119Z

10

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 /079 W

----- 059049

R 141420Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7513

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3605

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IN, UR

SUBJECT: A RASH OF ANTI-SOVIET COMMENT

SUMMARY: A MILD BUT SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL RASH OF ANTI-SOVIET COMMENT HAS BROKEN OUT IN THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT AND THE PRESS IN RECENT DAYS. MOST OF THE COMMENT HAS COME FROM JAN SANGHAND JP NARAYAN SUPPORTERS BUT MORE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS IN THE RULING CONGRESS PARTY ALSO APPEAR TO BE INVOLVED. SOME OF THESE SPOKESMEN HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN INCENSED BY PRAVDA'S MARCH 7 BLAST AT JP'S DELHI DEMONSTRATION, IN WHICH DEMONSTRATORS WERE REPORTEDLY LABELLED "THUGS" AND "PROVOCATEUR QGM OTHERS ARE OFFENDED BY MRS. GANDHIGSZS APPARENT ENDORSEMENT OF COMMUNIST ALLEGATION THAT FOREIGN MONEY IS BEHIND THE JP MOVEMENT. WE BELIEVE THE STORIES CAN BE INTIMATELY RELATED TO TACTICAL EFFORTS BY BOTH THE CONGRESS AND THE JP MOVEMENT TO DIVIDE EACH OTHER'S RANKS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE HINDUSTAN TIMES MARCH 14 FRONTPAGES A REPORT FROM DELHI THAT TWO INDIAN AIR FORCE OFFICERS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN COURT-MARTIALED FOR SELLING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION TO "RUSSIAN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03605 142119Z

CONTACT MEN" FOR THE PAST TWO AND ONE HALF YEARS. (TRUE).

THE INDIAN OFFICERS, DESCRIBED AS AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS DETAILED TO A SECRET MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ROCKET PROJECT, WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN OCTOBER AFTER THEY HAD RAISED SUSPICIONS BY INVITING THE TWO SOVIETS TO THE CENTRAL VISTA OFFICERS MESS IN DELHI. NO OTHER DELHI PAPER CARRIES THE REPORT.

2. THE HINDUSTAN TIMES STORY FOLLOWS A RECENT SPATE OF PRESS REPORTS AND PARLIAMENTARY STATEMENTS CRITICAL OF THE BEHAVIOR OF SOVEITS IN INDIA. TWO SOVIET DIPLOMATS WERE ACCUSED BY THE SAME PAPER MARCH 10 OF HAVING ATTENDED A MARCH 2 CLOSED CONGRESS PARTY STRATEGY SESSION AT KONARAK IN ORISSA. CONSERVATIVE LEADERS OF THE CONGRESS PARTY WERE DESCRIBED BY THE PRESS AS DISMAYED AT THIS "FOREIGN INROAD INTO THE INDIAN POLITICAL SCENE." ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THE SOVIETS ONLY PAID A BRIEF SOCIAL KELL BECAUSE THEY WERE PASSING THROUGH THE AREA, THE REPORT HAS NONETHELESS ALREADY PRODUCED ANGRY EXCHANGES BETWEEN CONGRESS LEADERS AND OPPOSITION PARTY SPOKESMEN IN BOTH THE CENTRAL AND ORISSA PARLIAMENTS. IN A SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT MARCH 10, A LEADING JAN SANGH SPOKESMAN (SWAMY) IDENTIFIED ONE OF THE SOVIET DIPLOMATS (SECOND SECRETARY SMYCHLIAEV) AS THE KGB'S NUMBER TWO MAN IN INDIA. SWAMY HAD EARLIER NOTED THE TENDENCY TO SINGLE OUT THE CIA RATHER THAN THE KGB FOR CRITICISM, SAYING NO ONE COULD PERSUADE HIM TO BELIEVE THAT THE "KGB IS IN INDIA TO HAVE A PICNIC AS OPPOSED TO THE CIA WHICH IS HERE TO PROTECT AMERICAN INTERESTS."

3. SEVERAL INDIAN PAPERS, INCLUDING THE PRO-SOVIET PATRIOT CARRIED BRIEF SUMMARIES OF PRAVDA'S COMMENTS ON JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN'S PEOPLE'S MARCH ON PARLIAMENT IN DELHI MARCH 6 ALTHOUGH WE HAVEN'T SEEN THE FULL PRAVDA STORY, IT REPORTEDLY DIDN'T MINCE WORDS ABOUT THE DEMONSTRATION OR THE MOVEMENT, USING TERMS WHICH HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED IN THE DELHI PRESS AS "THUGS," "PROVOCATEURS" AND "REACTIONARY FORCES." ADDING THE PRAVDA ATTACK TO THE KONARAK INCIDENT, THE JAN SANGH DAILY CONCLUDED MARCH 13 THAT THE "RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF INDIA ... IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE BLATANT." IN AN EARLIER REPORT, THE SAME DAILY NOTED THE SOVIET

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 03605 142119Z

EA ROSSIYA "FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS" CARRIED A FAVORABLE ARTICLE ON PAKISTAN, AND "NOW RUSSIA IS SYMPATHETICALLY CONSIDERING A REQUEST FOR SPARES FOR AIR MISSILES" EARLIER SOLD PAKISTAN.

4. THE JAN SANGH AND OTHERS SUPPORTING THE JP MOVEMENT ARE ALSO SMARTING OVER AN ALLEGATION FLOATED IN A LOCAL COMMUNIST WEEKLY IN LATE FEBRUARY THAT THE JP MOVEMENT IS BEING

FINANCED BY FOREIGN POWERS, POSSIBLY THE CIA. IN A SPEECH AT ROURKELA MARCH 8, THE PRIME MINISTER MENTIONED THE REPORT AND ASKED RHETORICALLY, "I DO NOT KNOW IF THEY ARE GETTING FOREIGN MONEY BUT IF THEY ARE, IS IT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK." THE JAN SANGH PRESIDENT PROMPTLY CALLED ON MRS. GANDHI TO PROVE THE CHARGE OR APOLOGIZE. (MRS. GANDHI RATHER LAMELY DENIED SHE HAD SAID ANYTHING OF THE SORT IN HER INTERVIEW WITPP UPI THIS WEEK. NEW DELHI 3530).

5. COMMENT: THIS CURRENT RASH OF ANTI-SOVIET PRESS STORIES AND COMMENTS AND PARTICULARLY "LEAKS" ON SECURITY CASOS FROM THE "RIGHT" ARE UNUSUAL. THEY PROBABLY REFLECT ON THE ONE HAND, THE DESIRE OF ANTI-COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS INVOLVED IN THE JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN MOVEMENT TO STRIKE BACK AGAINST CPI AND SOVIET CRITICISM OF THE MOVEMENT AND TO EMBASSASS THE

PRIME MINISTER IN ANY EFFORTS SHE MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO MAKE TO TIE UP TO CIA AND ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE ANTI-CPI FACTION IN CONGRESS IN EMBARRASSING THE CPI, THE CONGRESS "LEFT" AND THEIR CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIETS. IT IS THUS INTIMATELY RELATED TO THE TACTICAL EFFORTS BY BOTH CONGRESS AND THE JP MOVEMENT TO DIVIDE EACH OTHERS' RANKS (SEE SEPTTEL) AND COULD IN TURN LEAD TO NEW CHARGES BY THE CPI'S ORGANS AGAINST AMERICAN OFFICIALS OR "TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY" SUCH AS THE DROBOT CASE REPRESENTS. SAXBE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ANTICOMMUNIST, PRESS COMMENTS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NEWDE03605  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750091-0143  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750350/aaaabsoa.tel  
**Line Count:** 141  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** A RASH OF ANTI-SOVIET COMMENT SUMMARY: A MILD BUT SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL RASH OF ANTI-SOVIET  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, IN, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006